GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3720
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
REVIEW OF LABOUR LAWS
ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN;MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any action for the review of the existing labour laws so as to accelerate the growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and also to speed up liberalisation process of economy;

(b) if so, the specific laws identified for the review and the guidelines set for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to mete out justice to the labourers in the changing economy during the last year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) to (c): Review/updation of labour laws is a continuous process in order to bring them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs of the economy. Taking into consideration the requirement of productivity, competitiveness, employment generation and to update the provisions of labour laws, a need has been felt to make amendments in certain labour legislations and steps initiated accordingly. Thus amendments in the Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Workmen`s Compensation Act, 1923 and the Cine Workers` Welfare Fund Act, 1981 were carried out. Meanwhile, the Second National Commission on Labour has submitted its Report to the Government. The Commission has made wide ranging recommendations on various facets of labour viz. review of laws, social security, women & child labour, skill development, wages, labour administration, unorganised sector etc. The Ministry has held consultations and interactions with the workers` representatives, employers` organizations, experts, professionals etc. The recommendations of the Commission were discussed in the 38th Session of Indian Labour Conference held on 28-29 September, 2002, National Seminar on Un-organized Sector Workers held on 7-8 November, 2002 as also in a Tripartite Committee Meeting held on 18-19 February, 2003. Such steps are being taken to bring about a workable consensus for implementation of the recommendations of the Commission. The amendments to various labour laws are brought about keeping in view the requirements of the social partners and after ensuring that the workers` interest is fully protected.